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ACTION INL-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AMAD-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	DEAE-00
	DINT-00	DODE-00	WHA-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	OIGO-00
	E-00	VC-00	FRB-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-00
	VCE-00	AC-01	DCP-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OMB-01	PA-00
	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SP-00	IRM-00	SS-00
	STR-00	T-00	USIE-00	ASDS-01	PMB-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02
	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/007W		
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O 100054Z NOV 00
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7352
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
DIRFBI WASHDC
DOJ WASHDC
DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC

RELEASED IN FULL

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DEPARTMENT FOR INL/ENT, WHA/AND, L/LEI AND EB/IFD/OIA
DOJ FOR OIA
SANTIAGO FOR LEGATT

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/09/10
TAGS: PREL, EFIN, KCRM, SNAR, PE
[REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE: GOP REQUESTS FOR HELP
IN INVESTIGATING MONTESINOS U.S. BANK ACCOUNT

REF: STATE 21862

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR JOHN R. HAMILTON. REASON:
1.5 (D).

2. (C) PRESIDENT FUJIMORI CALLED THE AMBASSADOR TO THE
NATIONAL PALACE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 8 TO RAISE, INTER ALIA,
THE FOLLOWING MATTER. FUJIMORI SAID THE GOP INVESTIGATION
INTO POSSIBLE MONEY LAUNDERING AND ILLEGAL ENRICHMENT BY
FORMER NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS HAS
LED TO THE EXISTENCE OF A MONTESINOS BANK ACCOUNT IN THE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: DONALD A. JOHNSTON
DATE/CASE ID: 3 OCT 2001 20000441

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BANK OF NEW YORK.

3. (C) THE PRESIDENT SHOWED THE AMBASSADOR A CARD WITH ONLY THE FOLLOWING HANDWRITTEN INFORMATION:

"THE BANK OF NEW YORK, 51 WEST 51ST STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, 10019. TELEPHONE (212) 408-4194. IN CARE OF BILL PAYING DEPARTMENT, BEVERLY JONES."

FUJIMORI HAD NO OTHER INFORMATION BUT ASKED WHETHER WE COULD INVESTIGATE AND PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION. AMBASSADOR SAID HE WOULD TRANSMIT THIS INFORMATION PROMPTLY TO WASHINGTON, WHILE NOTING THAT WE WOULD REQUIRE A FORMAL REQUEST ORIGINATING WITH JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO ACT. AMBASSADOR SUBSEQUENTLY ELABORATED WITH PRESIDENTIAL CHIEF OF STAFF KAMIYA THAT WE WOULD NEED TO ACT VIA LETTERS ROGATORY AND THAT WE WOULD PURSUE THE MATTER WITH JUSTICE

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MINISTER BUSTAMANTE AND SPECIAL PROSECUTOR JOSE UGAZ. WITH BUSTAMANTE, WE THEN URGED THAT THE LETTERS ROGATORY PROVIDE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE ACCOUNT AND SPECIFY IN DETAIL WHAT INFORMATION THE GOP SEEKS.

4. (U) IN A PRESS CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 9, FUJIMORI MADE PUBLIC THE FACT THAT HE HAD ASKED THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO HAVE A NEW YORK BANK ACCOUNT OF MONTESINOS INVESTIGATED. HE DID NOT REVEAL THE NAME OF THE BANK OR ANY OTHER INFORMATION.

5. (C) IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE, FUJIMORI, SIMILARLY, MENTIONED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD LEARNED OF A MONTESINOS ACCOUNT IN A MONTEVIDEO BANK. HE HAD ALSO PROVIDED THE AMBASSADOR WITH THE FOLLOWING CURSORY INFORMATION ON THAT ACCOUNT:

"BANCO SUDAMERIS, MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY, TEL 915-0095, EXT. 2230; RINCON 500"

FUJIMORI INDICATED TO US THAT ANY INFORMATION THE USG COULD OBTAIN REGARDING MONTESINOS ACTIVITY WITH THAT BANK WOULD BE APPRECIATED, BUT HIS REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE WAS DIRECTED PRIMARILY AT THE U.S. BANK.

6. (C) ACTION: PER REFTTEL, WE UNDERSTAND THAT PRESIDENT FUJIMORI'S QUESTION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A "REQUEST" AND, AS WE HAVE NO MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE TREATY WITH PERU, SUCH A REQUEST WOULD LIKELY HAVE TO BE MADE VIA LETTERS ROGATORY.

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WE ARE ALSO AWARE OF THE SLIM FACTUAL BASIS UPON WHICH THE
PRESIDENT IS ASKING US TO ACT. HOPEFULLY, MORE INFORMATION
[REDACTED]

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WILL BECOME AVAILABLE AS WE WORK WITH THE JUSTICE MINISTER
(AND THE SPECIAL PROSECUTOR) ON THIS MATTER.

7. (C) THAT SAID, THERE IS EARNEST INTEREST ON THE PART OF
THE PRESIDENT IN PURSUING THIS INVESTIGATION AND POSSIBLE
U.S. CONNECTION. WE WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND TO HIM WITH ANY
FURTHER APPROPRIATE ADVICE, BEYOND WHAT IS CONTAINED IN THE
GUIDANCE REFTEL. ADDITIONALLY, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO BE
ABLE TO ASSIST THE PERUVIANS IN THE APPROPRIATE FORMULATION
OF REQUESTS AS THEY PURSUE THE INVESTIGATION. AN INITIAL
STEP WOULD BE CONSULTATIONS HERE BY LEGATT RESIDENT IN
SANTIAGO. ASSISTANCE FROM DOJ/OIA MIGHT ALSO BE
APPROPRIATE. PLEASE ADVISE.
HAMILTON
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